2nd November 1962]

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : The question is—

'That the Madras Industrial Establishments (National and Festival Holidays) Amendment Bill, 1962 (L.A. Bill No. 17 of 1962), as passed by the Assembly, be taken into consideration. *'

The motion was put and carried and the Bill was taken into consideration.

Clauses 2, 3, and 1 were put and carried.

The Preamble was put and carried.

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Sir, I move—

'That the Madras Industrial Establishments (National and Festival Holidays) Amendment Bill, 1962 (L.A. Bill No. 17 of 1962), as passed by the Assembly, be passed.'

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : The question is—

'That the Madras Industrial Establishments (National and Festival Holidays) Amendment Bill, 1962 (L.A. Bill No. 17 of 1962), as passed by the Assembly, be passed.'

The motion was put and carried and the Bill was passed.

(3) THE MADRAS LOCAL AUTHORITIES (EXTENSION OF TERM OF OFFICE OF MEMBERS) BILL, 1962 (L.A. BILL NO. 18 OF 1962.)

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Sir, I move—

'That the Madras Local Authorities (Extension of Term of Office of Members) Bill , 1962 (L.A. Bill No. 18 of 1962 as, passed by the Assembly, be taken into Consideration.' 3-50 p.m.

Sir, hon. Members are aware that a state of emergency in the country has been declared by the President in a proclamation issued under clause (1) of Article 352 of the Constitution of India on the 25th October 1962 and that the Election Commission thereupon has decided not to hold bye-elections either to Parliament or to State Legislatures. The ordinary elections to District Municipalities and the Council of the Corporation of Madras in this State have been scheduled to take place in the months of December 1962 and January 1963 respectively. There may be cases of ordinary or casual vacancies for filling of which elections will have to be held in respect of any of the panchayats also. It has been proposed to postpone elections both ordinary and casual to all local authorities (Corporation of Madras, District Municipalities, Panchayat Unions Councils and Panchayats) to be in consonance with the spirit of the steps taken by the Centre, so long as the said proclamation of emergency is in operation and for a period of six months

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* Printed as Appendix VII on pages 99–100

thereafter and also to extend the term of office of the members of those local authorities for the same period. It has, therefore, been considered desirable to undertake legislation to enable the Government to postpone the elections to the local authorities and to entend the term of office of the existing members of the local authorities specified above, also up to the period aforesaid. It is also proposed to take power to direct for sufficient cause to extend or reduce by such period to be specified, the term of members of the local authorities. The Bill now before the House provides for all the above formalities.

I may mention that power has been taken in this Bill to even hold the elections earlier than the six months provided in the Bill itself if the Government think that elections can be held within that period.

I, therefore, move that the Bill be taken into consideration.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Motion moved—

"That the Madras Local Authorities (Extension of Term of Office of Members) Bill, 1962 (L.A. Bill No. 18 of 1962), as passed by the Assembly, be taken into consideration."

SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : Sir, I welcome this Bill. We are faced with a national crisis and we cannot fritter away our energies. I do not want to say anything except that we welcome this Bill since this Bill is absolutely essential.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : The question is—

"That the Madras Local Authorities (Extension of Term of Office of Members) Bill, 1962 (L.A. Bill No. 18 of 1962), as passed by the Assembly, be taken into consideration."

The motion was put and carried and the Bill was taken into consideration.

Clauses 2 to 5 were put and carried.

Clause 1 and the Preamble were put and carried.

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Sir, I move—

"That the Madras Local Authorities (Extension of Term of Office of Members) Bill, 1962 (L.A. Bill No. 18 of 1962), as passed by the Assembly, be passed."

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : The question is—

"That the Madras Local Authorities (Extension of Term of Office of Members) Bill, 1962, (L.A. Bill No. 18 of 1962), as passed by the Assembly, be passed."

The motion was put and carried and the Bill was passed.